

REMARKS

Claims Status

Prior to entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-17, 20, 21 and 25-27 were pending in this application. In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-13, 15-17, 20, 21 and 35-27 were rejected, claim 14 was allowed, and claims 2, 3, 16 and 17 were objected to. In this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-13, 15-17, and 25-27 are amended. Support for the amendments may be found in the specification, and no new matter has been added.

Upon entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-17, 20, 21 and 25-27 remain pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections in light of the amendments made here.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 3, the Examiner objected to claims 2 and 16. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's objections.

In paragraph 4, the Examiner objected to claims 3 and 17. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's objections.

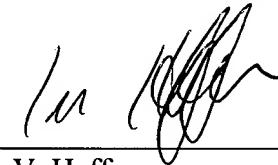
Claim Rejections

In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-13, 15-17, 20, 21 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of all grounds of objection, and allowance of claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-17, 20, 21, and 25-27 in due course. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone at the number below to discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,



Ira V. Heffan
Attorney for Applicants
Goodwin Procter LLP
Exchange Place
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
Customer No. 051414

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Reg. No. 41,059

Tel. No.: (617) 570-1777
Fax No.: (617) 523-1231